AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1 - 11. (cancelled)

12.   (currently amended) A method implemented at least partially in a programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange, the method comprising:

a) receiving by the programmed computer, ~~assigning~~ an execution allocation option <u>for</u> ~~to~~ a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) ~~automatically~~ receiving <u>by the programmed computer,</u> the round-lot securities order for the security, after <u>receiving</u> ~~assigning~~ the execution allocation option;

c) ~~automatically~~ determining <u>by the programmed computer,</u> whether the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution<u>, wherein the indicator requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price</u>

improvement;

d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic execution, exposing the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement ~~if the securities order does not include an indicator requesting automatic execution~~;

e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution, automatically executing by the programmed computer, ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in the published ~~a~~ quote price for the security, without exposing the securities order for possible price improvement~~, if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution~~;

~~determining by the programmed computer, the assigned execution allocation option~~; and

f) after automatically executing ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order, ~~automatically~~ allocating by the programmed computer, shares of the automatic execution among contra parties according to the previously received ~~assigned~~ execution allocation option.

13.   (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the securities order is a limit order.

14.   (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the securities order is a market order.

15.   (original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising sending an

order execution report.

16.   (cancelled)

17.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein automatically executing further comprises at least partially fulfilling the securities order from a display book order.

18.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 12, further comprising at least partially fulfilling the securities order from an auction market crowd order after automatically executing the securities order.

19.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 12, further comprising at least partially fulfilling the securities order from a display book order after automatically executing the securities order.

20.   (cancelled)

21.   (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable software code stored thereon, the code for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange, the code comprising:

a) code to assign an execution allocation option to a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate

execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) code to ~~automatically~~ receive the round-lot securities order for the security, after assigning the execution allocation option;

c) code to ~~automatically~~ determine whether the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution, wherein the indicator requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement;

d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic execution, code to expose the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement ~~if the securities order does not include an indicator requesting automatic execution~~;

e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution, code to automatically execute ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in the published ~~a~~ quote price for the security, without exposing the securities order for possible price improvement~~, if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution~~;

~~code to automatically determine the assigned execution allocation option~~; and

f) after automatically executing ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order, code to ~~automatically~~ allocate shares of the automatic execution among contra parties according

to the previously assigned execution allocation option.

22.　　(currently amended) A programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange, comprising:

a memory having at least one region for storing computer executable program code; and

a processor for executing the program code stored in the memory; wherein the program code comprising:

a) code to assign an execution allocation option to a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) code to ~~automatically~~ receive the round-lot securities order for the security, after assigning the execution allocation option;

c) code to ~~automatically~~ determine whether the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution, wherein the indicator requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement;

d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic execution, code to expose the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement ~~if the securities order does not include an~~

~~indicator requesting automatic execution;~~

e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution, code to automatically execute ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in the published ~~a~~ quote price for the security, without exposing the securities order for possible price improvement, ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution;~~

~~code to automatically determine the assigned execution allocation option;~~

and

f) after automatically executing ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order, code to ~~automatically~~ allocate shares of the automatic execution among contra parties according to the previously assigned execution allocation option.

23.   (currently amended) A method implemented at least partially in a programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot limit buy or sell order for a security on a single securities exchange with an auction market crowd, the method comprising:

a) receiving by the programmed computer, ~~assigning~~ an execution allocation option for ~~to~~ the security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) ~~automatically~~ receiving by the programmed computer, the round-lot limit order for the security, after receiving ~~assigning~~ the execution allocation option;

c) ~~automatically~~ determining by the programmed computer, whether the limit order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution, wherein the indicator requesting

automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the limit order at either a

best offer to sell or best bid to buy as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published

by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the limit order will not be exposed

to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement;

     d) ~~automatically~~ determining by the programmed computer, whether the limit

order qualifies for automatic execution;

     e) if the limit order does not include the indicator requesting automatic execution,

or if the limit order does not qualify for automatic execution, exposing the limit order to the

auction market crowd for possible price improvement ~~if the limit order does not include an~~

~~indicator requesting automatic execution, or if the limit order does not qualify for automatic~~

~~execution~~;

     f) if the limit order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and the

limit order qualifies for automatic execution, automatically executing by the programmed

computer, ~~at least a portion of~~ the limit order against the ~~a~~ respective best offer to sell or best bid

to buy for the security, without exposing the limit order to the auction market crowd for possible

price improvement~~, if the limit order includes the an indicator requesting automatic execution~~

~~and if the limit order qualifies for automatic execution;~~

     ~~automatically determining the assigned execution allocation option~~; and

     g) after automatically executing ~~at least a portion of~~ the limit order,

~~automatically~~ allocating by the programmed computer, shares of the automatic execution among

contra parties according to the previously received ~~assigned~~ execution allocation option.

     24.   (currently amended) A method implemented at least partially in a

programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot market buy or sell order for a

security on a single securities exchange with an auction market crowd, the method comprising:

a) receiving by the programmed computer, ~~assigning~~ an execution allocation

option <u>for</u> ~~to~~ the security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected

from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or

allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) ~~automatically~~ receiving <u>by the programmed computer,</u> the round-lot market

order for the security, after <u>receiving</u> ~~assigning~~ the execution allocation option;

c) ~~automatically~~ determining <u>by the programmed computer,</u> whether the market

order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution<u>, wherein the indicator requesting</u>

<u>automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the market order at either a</u>

<u>best offer to sell or best bid to buy as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published</u>

<u>by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the market order will not be</u>

<u>exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price</u>

<u>improvement;</u>

d) ~~automatically~~ determining <u>by the programmed computer,</u> whether the market

order qualifies for automatic execution;

e) if the market order does not include the indicator requesting automatic

execution, or if the market order does not qualify for automatic execution, exposing the market

order to the auction market crowd for possible price improvement ~~if the market order does not~~

~~include an indicator requesting automatic execution, or if the market order does not qualify for~~

~~automatic execution;~~

f) if the market order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and

the market order qualifies for automatic execution, automatically executing by the programmed

computer, at least a portion of the market order against the a respective best offer to sell or best

bid to buy for the security, without exposing the market order to the auction market crowd for

possible price improvement, if the market order includes an indicator requesting automatic

execution and the market order qualifies for automatic execution;

automatically determining the assigned execution allocation option; and

g) after automatically executing at least a portion of the market order,

automatically allocating by the programmed computer, shares of the automatic execution among

contra parties according to the previously received assigned execution allocation option.

25-41. (cancelled)

42.   (currently amended) A method implemented at least partially in a

programmed computer for automatically processing a round-lot securities order on a single

securities exchange, the method comprising:

a) receiving by the programmed computer, assigning an execution allocation

option for to a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected

from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or

allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) automatically receiving by the programmed computer, the round-lot securities

order for the security, after receiving assigning the execution allocation option;

c) automatically determining by the programmed computer, whether the securities

order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and a price of the securities order,

wherein the indicator requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement;

d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic execution, exposing the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement ~~if the securities order does not include an indicator requesting automatic execution~~, wherein exposing the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement is a regular execution;

e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution, ~~automatically~~ comparing by the programmed computer, the price of the securities order to the published ~~a~~ quote price for the security ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution~~;

f) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and the price of the securities order is not equal to or better than the published quote price for the security, ~~automatically~~ changing by the programmed computer, the status of the securities order from automatic execution to regular execution ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and the price of the order is not equal to or better than the quote~~;

g) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and the price of the securities order is equal to or better than the published quote price for the security, automatically executing by the programmed computer, the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to sell the security ~~on an auction market of the securities exchange if the~~

~~securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and the price of the order is~~

~~equal to or better than the quote;~~

~~automatically determining the assigned execution allocation option~~; and

h) after automatically executing the <u>securities</u> order, ~~automatically~~

allocating <u>by the programmed computer,</u> shares of the automatic execution among contra parties

according to the <u>previously received</u> ~~assigned~~ execution allocation option.

43.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 42, wherein the

securities order further includes a size, the method further comprising:

comparing the size of the <u>securities</u> order with a respective interest in the security;

and

changing the status of at least a portion of the <u>securities</u> order from automatic

execution to regular execution if the size is greater than the interest.

44-45. (cancelled)

46.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 42, further comprising

sending an execution report for the <u>securities</u> order.

47.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 42, <u>wherein the book is</u>

<u>a display book, the method</u> further comprising at least partially fulfilling the <u>securities</u> order with

an order on <u>the</u> ~~a~~ display book.

48.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 42, further comprising at least partially fulfilling the <u>securities</u> order with an order from <u>the</u> ~~an~~ auction market crowd.

49.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 42, wherein the <u>published</u> quote <u>price for the security</u> includes a best bid price for the security, the securities order is a sell order and the price of the <u>securities</u> order is greater than the best bid price.

50.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 42, wherein the <u>published</u> quote <u>price for the security</u> includes a best offer price for the security, the securities order is a buy order and the price of the <u>securities</u> order is less than the best offer price.

51.   (cancelled)

52.   (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable software code stored thereon, the code for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange, the code comprising:

<u>a)</u> code to assign an execution allocation option to a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

<u>b)</u> code to ~~automatically~~ receive the round-lot securities order for the security, after assigning the execution allocation option;

<u>c)</u> code to ~~automatically~~ determine whether the securities order includes an

indicator requesting automatic execution and a price of the securities order, wherein the indicator

requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities

order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security

that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order

will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible

price improvement;

d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic

execution, code to expose the securities order to the an auction market crowd of the single

securities exchange for possible price improvement if the securities order does not include an

indicator requesting automatic execution, wherein exposing the securities order to the an auction

market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement is a regular

execution;

e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution,

code to automatically compare the price of the securities order to the published a quote price for

the security if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution;

f) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and

the price of the securities order is not equal to or better than the published quote price for the

security, code to automatically change the status of the securities order from automatic execution

to regular execution if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution

and the price of the order is not equal to or better than the quote;

g) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and

the price of the securities order is equal to or better than the published quote price for the

security, code to automatically execute the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to

sell the security ~~on an auction market of the securities exchange if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and the price of the order is equal to or better than the quote;~~

~~code to automatically determine the assigned execution allocation option;~~ and

h) after automatically executing the securities order, code to ~~automatically~~ allocate shares of the automatic execution among contra parties according to the previously received ~~assigned~~ execution allocation option.

53.   (currently amended) A programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange, comprising:

a memory having at least one region for storing computer executable program code; and

a processor for executing the program code stored in the memory; wherein the program code comprises:

a) code to assign an execution allocation option to a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) code to ~~automatically~~ receive the round-lot securities order for the security, after assigning the execution allocation option;

c) code to ~~automatically~~ determine whether the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and a price of the securities order, wherein the indicator

requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities

order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security

that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order

will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible

price improvement;

        d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic

execution, code to expose the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single

securities exchange for possible price improvement ~~if the securities order does not include an~~

~~indicator requesting automatic execution~~, wherein exposing the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction

market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement is a regular

execution;

        e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution,

code to ~~automatically~~ compare the price of the securities order to the published ~~a~~ quote price for

the security ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution~~;

        f) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and

the price of the securities order is not equal to or better than the published quote price for the

security, code to ~~automatically~~ change the status of the securities order from automatic execution

to regular execution ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution~~

~~and the price of the order is not equal to or better than the quote~~;

        g) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and

the price of the securities order is equal to or better than the published quote price for the

security, code to automatically execute the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to

sell the security ~~on an auction market of the securities exchange if the securities order includes an~~

~~indicator requesting automatic execution and the price of the order is equal to or better than the~~

~~quote;~~

~~code to automatically determine the assigned execution allocation option;~~ and

<u>h)</u> after automatically executing the <u>securities</u> order, code to ~~automatically~~ allocate shares of the automatic execution among contra parties according to the <u>previously</u> assigned execution allocation option.

54.   (currently amended) A method implemented at least partially in a programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange, the method comprising:

<u>a) receiving by the programmed computer,</u> ~~assigning~~ an execution allocation option <u>for</u> ~~to~~ a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

<u>b)</u> ~~automatically~~ receiving <u>by the programmed computer,</u> the round-lot securities order for the security, after <u>receiving</u> ~~assigning~~ the execution allocation option;

<u>c)</u> ~~automatically~~ determining <u>by the programmed computer,</u> whether the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and a size of the <u>securities</u> order, <u>wherein the indicator requesting automatic execution directs the single securities exchange to execute the securities order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published by the single securities exchange and also acknowledges that the securities order will not be exposed to an auction market crowd of the single securities</u>

exchange for possible price improvement;

d) if the securities order does not include the indicator requesting automatic execution, exposing the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement ~~if the securities order does not include an indicator requesting automatic execution~~, wherein exposing the securities order to the ~~an~~ auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement is a regular execution;

e) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution, ~~automatically~~ comparing by the programmed computer, the size of the securities order to a respective interest in the security ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution~~, wherein interest in the security is a number of shares of the security at a best offer to sell or best bid to buy price that is published by the single securities exchange;

f) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and the size of the securities order is greater than the interest, ~~automatically~~ changing by the programmed computer, the status of at least a portion of the securities order from automatic execution to regular execution ~~if the securities order includes an indicator requesting automatic execution and the size of the order is greater than the interest~~;

g) if the securities order includes the indicator requesting automatic execution and the size of the securities order is less than or equal to the interest, automatically executing by the programmed computer, ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order at the best bid to buy or best offer to sell the security ~~on an auction market of the securities exchange~~;

~~automatically determining the assigned execution allocation option~~; and

h) after automatically executing ~~at least a portion of~~ the securities order, ~~automatically~~ allocating by the programmed computer, shares of the automatic execution among

contra parties according to the previously received ~~assigned~~ execution allocation option.

55.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein the securities order further includes a price, the method further comprising:

comparing the price of the securities order to a published quote for the security; and

changing the status of the securities order from automatic execution to regular execution if the price of the securities order is not equal to or better than the published quote for the security.

56.   (original) A method according to claim 54, wherein the securities order is a limit order.

57.   (original) A method according to claim 54, wherein the securities order is a market order.

58-86. (cancelled)

87.   (currently amended) A method implemented at least partially in a programmed computer for ~~automatically~~ processing a round-lot securities order on a single securities exchange with an auction market crowd, the method comprising:

a) receiving by the programmed computer, ~~assigning~~ an execution allocation option for ~~to~~ a security, wherein the execution allocation option is one of three options selected

from the group consisting of allocate execution to crowd only, allocate execution to book only, or

allocate a percentage of execution to crowd and allocate a percentage of execution to book;

b) ~~automatically~~ receiving by the programmed computer, the round-lot securities

order for the security, after receiving ~~assigning~~ the execution allocation option;

c) ~~automatically~~ determining by the programmed computer, whether the securities

order is identified for automatic execution, wherein automatic execution directs the single

securities exchange to execute the securities order at either a best bid to buy or best offer to sell

as reflected in a quote price for the security that is published by the single securities exchange

and also acknowledges that the securities order will not be exposed to an auction market crowd

of the single securities exchange for possible price improvement;

d) if the securities order is not identified for automatic execution, exposing the

securities order to the auction market crowd of the single securities exchange for possible price

improvement ~~if the securities order is not identified for automatic execution~~;

e) if the securities order is identified for automatic execution, automatically

executing by the programmed computer, the securities order against the best bid to buy or best

offer to sell the security as reflected in the ~~a~~ published quote price for the security ~~if the securities~~

~~order is identified for automatic execution~~;

f) if the securities order was automatically executed against the published quote

for the security, ~~automatically~~ updating by the programmed computer, the published quote for the

security based on the execution of the securities order ~~if the securities order was automatically~~

~~executed against the published quote~~;

~~automatically determining the assigned execution allocation option~~; and

g) after automatically executing the securities order, ~~automatically~~ allocating by

the programmed computer, shares of the automatic execution among contra parties according to

the previously received ~~assigned~~ execution allocation option.

88.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 87, wherein a size of

the published quote for the security after updating reflects execution ~~a~~ size of the securities order.

89.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 87, wherein a size of

the published quote for the security after updating represents a minimum quote size, but does not

necessarily reflect execution ~~a~~ size of the securities order.

90-92. (cancelled)

93.   (new) The method according to claim 12, wherein automatically

executing the securities order further comprises:

executing at least a portion of the securities order up to a size of the best bid to

buy or best offer to sell as reflected in the published quote for the security.

94.   (new) The method according to claim 12, wherein automatically executing

the securities order further comprises:

executing all of the securities order.